

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LYON 00258 261513Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 /070 W
-----071648 262323Z /61

R 261430Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL LYON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1058
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL NICE
AMCONSUL STRASBURG

UNCLAS LYON 0258

E.O. 11652 : N/A
TAGS : PINT, FR
SUBJECT : PRIME MINISTER BARRE'S LEGISLATIVE CANDIDACY
IN LYON . GATHERS MOMENTUM.

REF : LYON 192, JUNE 29, 1977

1. ACCORDING TO WELL INFORMED REGIONAL SOURCES, PRIME

MINISTER RAYMOND BARRE'S CANDIDACY FOR THE DEPUTY SEAT
OF THE 4TH RHONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT, LOCATED IN
LYON, IS NOW A CERTAINTY. A FRIENDLY PREFECT OF
NEIGHBORING DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED THAT A HIGH-POWERED
AND DISTINGUISHED "CITIZENS FOR BARRE" COMMITTEE
HAD BEEN FORMED, AND WOULD SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCED,
TO LAY THE NECESSARY GROUNDWORK FOR HIS ELECTION.

2. BARRE HAS NOT EXACTLY HIDDEN HIS INTENTIONS AND
KEEN INTEREST IN THIS CITY. IN SIX MONTHS HE HAS VISITED
LYON ON THREE OFFICIAL OCCASIONS, TWO OF WHICH HE USED
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TO MAKE MAJOR POLICY PRONOUNCEMENTS. IT IS ALSO
KNOWN THAT HE WAS CLOSELY CONCERNED WITH THE
NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED
MERGER BETWEEN BERLIET (OF LYON) AND SAVIEM AND
THAT THE MATIGNON HAS CONSCIENTIOUSLY FOLLOWED
OTHER ECONOMIC DECISIONS AFFECTING THE LYON AREA.

3. ALREADY THERE IS A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF JOCKYING FOR POSITION AS TO WHO BARRE MAY CHOOSE TO RUN WITH HIM AS HIS SUPPLEANT OR LEGISLATIVE "STAND-IN", ON THE GROUNDS THAT SUCH AN UNDERSTUDY MAY READILY MOVE UP TO DEPUTY IF BARRE SHOULD AGAIN BE NAMED TO THE NEXT CABINET. NAMES WHICH HAVE COME UP IN THIS CONNECTION ARE : NICOLE PASQUIER, CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AS NATIONAL DELEGATE FOR WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, AND JACQUES TOUBON, ELECTION DELEGATE FOR JACQUES CHIRAC. THAT SOMEONE IN CHIRAC'S CAMP SHOULD EVEN BE MENTIONED IS INTERESTING GIVEN THE STRONG RPR REACTION AGAINST BARRE'S CANDIDACY LAST JUNE, REPORTED IN REFTEL. THE RUMOR MIGHT POSSIBLY SIGNAL THE BEGINNINGS OF A DEAL.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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